

# Historical Resources

## SURVEY SAVVY

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Ventura

# What is a Historical Resources Survey?

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- **Systematic process** for
  - *Gathering information* about a community's historical resources.
  - *Identifying* and
  - *Evaluating* the quantity and quality of historical resources for *land-use planning purposes*.



# What is a historical resource?

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- ☐ National Register
- ☐ California Register
- ☐ CEQA
- ☐ Local criteria



# National Register Criteria

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- ☐ Buildings, Structures, Objects, Sites, Districts
- ☐ Local, State, or National significance
- ☐ in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture

# California Register Criteria

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- ☐ Buildings, Structures, Objects, Sites, Districts, Area, Place, Record, or Manuscript
- ☐ Historically or Archaeologically significant
- ☐ Significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military, or cultural annals of California.

# CEQA Criteria

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- ☐ Resource listed in or determined eligible by the SHRC for listing in the **California Register**;
- ☐ Resource included in a **local register** of historical resources;
- ☐ Resource identified as significant in an **historical resources survey** (status codes 3-5) shall be presumed to be historically or culturally significant;
- ☐ Any B,S,O,S,A,...which a lead agency determines to be historically significant...

# SIGNIFICANCE

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Associated  
with  
significant  
historic  
events or  
patterns of  
development

# SIGNIFICANCE

Associated with significant persons





# SIGNIFICANCE

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Embodies distinctive characteristics of a type, represents the work of a master,



Possesses high artistic values.

# Significance

Has yielded or has the potential to yield important information





# HISTORIC RESOURCE?



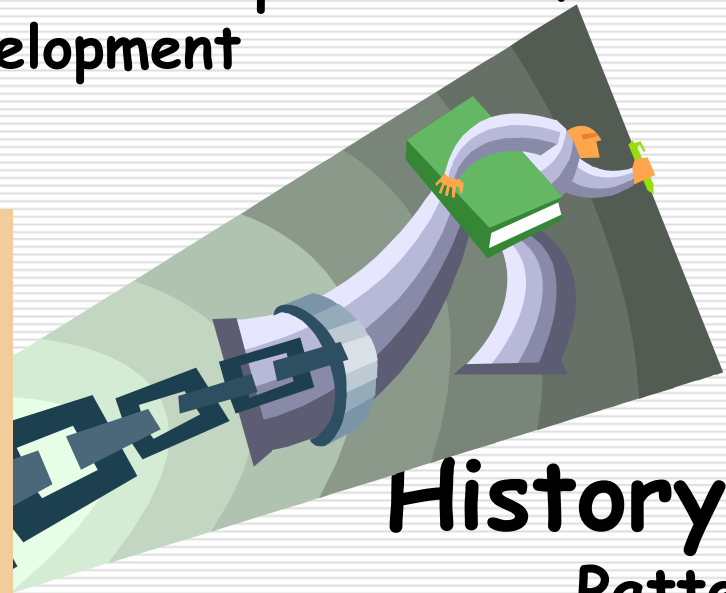
# HISTORIC RESOURCE?



# HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Describe significant aspects and broad patterns of an area's history and cultural development

## Built Environment



**History**  
Patterns  
Events  
People  
Values

# Historic Contexts

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- ❑ *Synthesize* information about significant historical patterns, events, people, groups, and values
- ❑ *Identify* the property types\* and locational patterns which represent important historic patterns, events, people or groups
- ❑ *Identify* characteristics each property type needs to represent the property type within the context
- ❑ *Identify* eligibility and integrity thresholds
- ❑ *Facilitate* better understanding of relative importance of resources for initial study as well as planning purposes
- ❑ \* Groupings of individual properties based on shared physical or associative characteristics



# Historic Contexts also

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- *Identify* additional Information Needs
- *Recommend* Goals and Strategies
- *Evolve* as additional information is acquired
- *Permit* development of plans for identification, evaluation, and treatment of resources even in absence of complete knowledge of individual properties.

# CONTEXTS



For decisions about identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties



# INTEGRITY

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- Resource retains sufficient historic fabric and character-defining features to convey its historical significance
- Resource would be easily recognizable by someone who knew the resource during its period of significance.
- **Note: Multiple contexts/multiple periods of significance...**
- **7 aspects of integrity – which are relevant depends on why the resource is significant**

# Tallman Hotel – Loss of Integrity

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# Assemble Project Team\*

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**Planning Staff**  
**HP Consultants**  
**Volunteers**

\* Key team members should meet Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications

# How do we get started?

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- ✓ Funding?
- ✓ Survey goals?
- ✓ Survey what?
- ✓ Survey where?
- ✓ Who will do what?
- ✓ Public Involvement?



# PLANNING

## Who Will Do What? When?

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- ☐ Develop preliminary historic context/s
- ☐ Determine survey boundaries
- ☐ Perform pre-field archival research
  - Existing knowledge: maps, reports, building records, photos
  - Windshield survey of project area
- ☐ Identify locations of properties within period of significance
- ☐ Plan field survey strategies: style guides, templates, etc.
- ☐ Involve Public



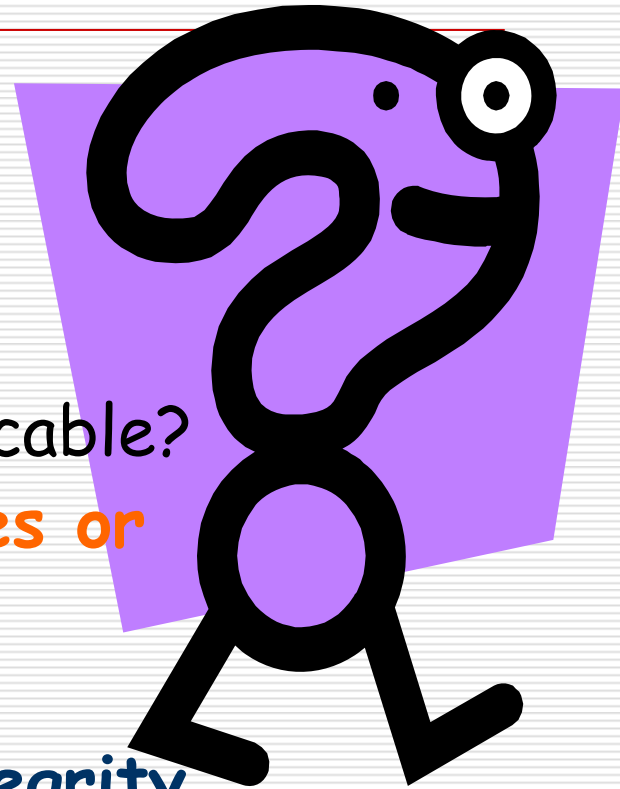
# I. IDENTIFICATION

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- ☐ **Identify** the kinds of historic properties within the surveyed area
- ☐ **Identify** neighborhoods or potential historic districts - concentration of historic resources
- ☐ **Identify** areas where no historic resources are present
- ☐ **Identify** properties that do *not* merit further attention
- ☐ **Identify** potentially significant individual buildings or areas which merit further identification and evaluation

## II. EVALUATION

- ❑ What **context** and **property type** does the resource represent?
- ❑ What is its **significance** in the historical context?
- ❑ What evaluation **criteria** are applicable?
- ❑ Does it have the expected **features or characteristics** for its type?
- ❑ Is it a **contributor** to a **district**?
- ❑ Does the property possess the **integrity** characteristics for its property type within the defined context?





# Evaluating Significance & Integrity

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- ❑ "Historic properties either retain their integrity or they do not" (National Register Bulletin 15)
- ❑ Critical relationship exists between significance and integrity
- ❑ Integrity is contingent upon significance; the integrity of a given property cannot be evaluated until its significance has been determined
- ❑ It is possible for a property to be significant under more than one of the National Register criteria, but to retain integrity only under one.

# III. DOCUMENTATION

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- **Documents** all historic buildings, structures, sites, objects and potential districts in *sufficient detail* to allow for *informed land use planning decisions*.
- **Defines** essential physical features, also called *character-defining features*, that must be present to represent the property's significance.
- Results in an *inventory* of significant properties  
*Planning is different than designation*

# Survey Update

## Identification - Evaluation - Documentation

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- ☐ Fill in gaps -
- ☐ Develop contexts where there were none
- ☐ Consider **significance** within additional contexts
- ☐ Evaluate with **current understandings** and methodology
- ☐ Evaluate **integrity** and **current condition**
- ☐ Evaluate as **contributor** to district or neighborhood
- ☐ Electronic database - public access

# PUT IT ALL TOGETHER

- ❑ HISTORICAL CONTEXTS
- ❑ SURVEY DATA
- ❑ INVENTORY\*
- ❑ SURVEY REPORT
- ❑ RECOMMENDATIONS
- ❑ REVIEW
- ❑ "ADOPTION"
- ❑ INTEGRATION -  
Planning & Zoning



\* ALL identified and evaluated resources

# SURVEYS PROVIDE **CLUES**

- ☐ What resources exist?
- ☐ Where are the resources are located?
- ☐ What are the character defining features?
- ☐ Why are they **significant**?
- ☐ Have they retained **integrity**?
- ☐ How does each need to be treated?

*Revisit, Reevaluate, Update*



**Surveys = Foundation** upon which  
preservation planning is built.

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**Historic  
Preservation**

**Zoning  
&  
Planning**

**Disaster  
Planning  
&  
Response**

**Environmental  
Review  
Sec 106  
CEQA**

**WHY  
SURVEY?**

**Transportation  
Planning**

**Heritage  
Tourism  
Initiatives**

**Community  
Development**

**Affordable  
Housing  
&  
Adaptive  
Reuse**



# Disaster Planning & Response

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- ☐ Identify significant historic resources before disaster strikes.
- ☐ Response to disaster is different for historic buildings.
- ☐ PRC 5028 - NR/CR/Local Registers
- ☐ Prevents demolition of buildings that could /should be preserved.



# Transportation Planning

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- ❑ Know where the historic resources are before planning transportation paths.
- ❑ Identify existing infrastructure that is under-utilized and/or will need to be upgraded with adaptive reuse.
- ❑ Plan to avoid adverse impacts to historic districts and neighborhoods when possible.

# Affordable Housing and Adaptive Reuse

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- ☐ Establish eligibility for federal funding and tax incentives
- ☐ Identify buildings suitable for Adaptive Reuses
- ☐ Develop plans for the adaptive reuse of existing housing stock
- ☐ Develop design guidelines for compatible infill for historic and conservation districts or neighborhoods
- ☐ Prescribe Maintenance Practices

# Community Development

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- ❑ Foster pride of place and appreciation of cultural heritage
- ❑ Maintain and enhance property values
- ❑ Establish eligibility for federal funding and tax incentives
- ❑ Provide economic and other incentives to promote conservation and preservation
- ❑ Sustain or improve quality of life by maintaining neighborhood character
- ❑ Identify zones for redevelopment & revitalization

# Heritage Tourism Initiatives

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- ❑ Develop and enforce *Design Guidelines* to retain the character of historic districts and neighborhoods
- ❑ Develop walking/driving bicycle tours of historic areas
- ❑ Promote and develop business uses compatible with historic districts
- ❑ Prescribe Maintenance Practices
- ❑ Identify Compatible Adaptive Reuse

# Environmental Reviews

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- ❑ CEQA
- ❑ Local Preservation Ordinance
- ❑ Permit Review Process
- ❑ Section 106 for federally funded, licensed, and permitted projects including cell towers

# Historic Preservation

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- ☐ Local designations
- ☐ Nation, state and local registers nominations
- ☐ Facilitate use of Federal Historic Preservation Investment Tax Credits
- ☐ General Plan Element
- ☐ Preservation Ordinance

# Integrate HP into Zoning & Planning

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- ☐ Historic Districts
- ☐ HPOZs
- ☐ Conservation Districts
- ☐ Zones for development
- ☐ Design Guidelines and Review
- ☐ Infill standards
- ☐ Streamlining Permits/COAs
- ☐ Historic Building Code

**Historic  
Preservation**

**Zoning  
&  
Planning**

**Disaster  
Planning  
&  
Response**



**Environmental  
Review  
Sec 106  
CEQA**

**Basis for  
Informed  
Decisions**

**Transportation  
Planning**

**Heritage  
Tourism  
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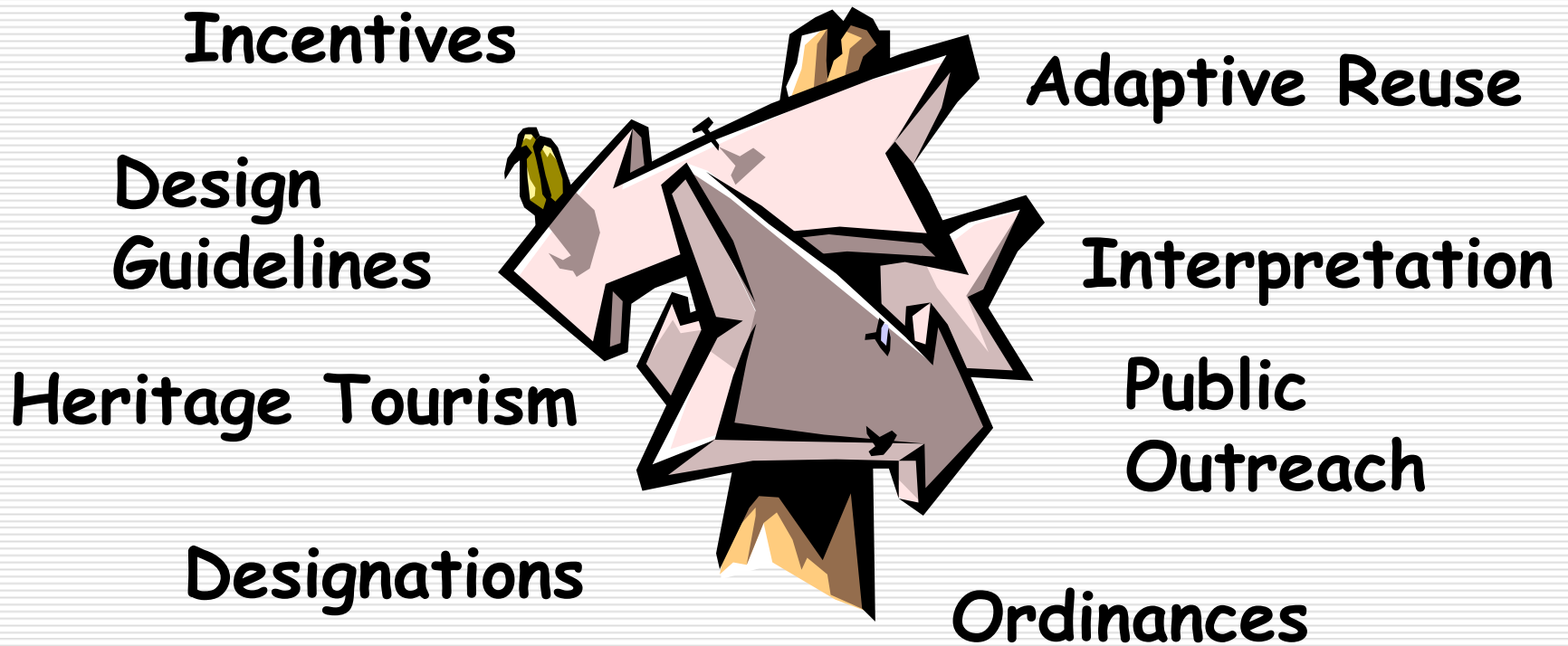
**Community  
Development**

**Affordable  
Housing  
&  
Adaptive  
Reuse**



# SURVEYS

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**Provide Direction for Preservation Strategies**

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# For More Information:



- ❑ "Guidelines for Local Surveys: A Basis for Preservation Planning," *National Register Bulletin 24*,  
[www.cr.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb24/](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb24/)
- ❑ Archeology and Historic Preservation: *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines* for Planning, Identification, Evaluation, and Documentation of historic resources,  
[www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch\\_stnds\\_0.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/local-law/arch_stnds_0.htm)
- ❑ Office of Historic Preservation [www.ohp.parks.ca.gov](http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov)

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